



MEDIA ALERT

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Royal Netherlands Navy Frigate
***HNLMS Tromp* to Make First Visit to United States**
Media Invited to Tour Ship

Washington, DC– Her Netherlands Majesties' Ship (HNLMS) Tromp of the Royal Netherlands Navy will visit Norfolk May 25th – 30th, 2005. While in Norfolk, this magnificent ship will be docked at Naval Station Norfolk. The visit by HNLMS Tromp marks the first visit ever to the United States by a ship of the class of destroyer-sized combatant designed and built by the Royal Netherlands Navy.

HNLMS Tromp is one of four of the "Zeven Provinciën" Class Air Defense and Command frigates for the Royal Netherlands Navy, built by Royal Schelde at its shipyard in Flushing, The Netherlands. It measures 480 feet and has a displacement of 6,200 tons. Commissioned in 2003, the *Tromp* displays a futuristic stealth profile and Active Phased Array Radar. Like a number of other navies in the NATO Alliance, the Royal Netherlands Navy is being transformed from a navy mainly focused on Anti Submarine Warfare in the Atlantic Ocean to a far more deployable and expeditionary Maritime Force, highly suited to operate worldwide both in deep waters as in the littoral. The primary task of the Tromp is to provide local area air defense against airborne targets for a task group, and to provide the task group with dedicated command facilities.

The main tasks of the Royal Netherlands Navy (with 16,000 military and civilian personnel and 28 frigates, support ships and mine hunters) are to protect Dutch territory and that of its allies including the territory of the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba, upholding the international legal order and respect for human rights, and providing support to civil authorities regarding law enforcement, disaster relief and humanitarian aid, both at home and abroad.

The *Tromp* arrives in the United States from Montreal, Canada where it participated in celebrations for the 60th Anniversary of the end of World War II. Prior to its visit to Norfolk, it will visit the port of Baltimore from 19 – 25 May. The *Tromp*, with Captain Jankees Trimpe Burger as Commanding Officer, carries a maximum crew of 202, including flag staff and 32 officers. During the visit, the ship will host a reception and a number of tours (by invitation only) for local dignitaries, US Defense and Navy authorities, foreign military attachés, and US Defense industries. Defense industries from the Netherlands and their American affiliates will be present to inform the audience about the capabilities of their products.

The ship will depart on Monday, May 30 for The Netherlands.

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TROMP VISITS UNITED STATES

The name “Tromp” is a remembrance of two famous admirals who served the Dutch Admiralty from 1607 to 1677. Until now, eight ships have borne the name *Tromp*.

More details about the ship, and the visit can be found on www.netherlands-embassy.org/tromp

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Note to Media: Members of the media are invited to take a tour and meet the Commanding Officer and crew of the HNLMS Tromp on Thursday, May 26th from 1pm to 3:15pm. Media interested in this tour should respond by May 25th to Carla Bundy. Media should meet at the Navy Tour & Information Center on Hampton Blvd at 12:30 for an escort to the ship. More details about the ship, and the visit can be found on www.netherlands-embassy.org/tromp